IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE R.BASANT

FRIDAY, THE 22ND JUNE 2007 / 1ST ASHADHA 1929

Crl.MC.No. 1999 of 2007()

CC.297/2005 of JUDL. MAGISTRATE OF FIRST CLASS COURT, CHALAKUDY

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PETITIONER:

O.V.RANJITH, S/O.KUNHIKORAN, AGED 28 YEARS, ODAN VALAPPIL HOUSE, P.O.MURAZHA, KANNUR DIST.

BY ADV. SRI.C.K.SREEJITH

RESPONDENTS: RESPONDENTS

STATE OF KERALA, REP. BY PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, HIGH COURT OF KERALA, ERNAKULAM.

BY PUBLIC PROSECUTOR SRI.M.S.BREEZ

THIS CRIMINAL MISC. CASE HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 22/06/2007, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY PASSED THE FOLLOWING:

R.BASANT, J.

Crl.M.C.No.1999 of 2007

Dated this the 22nd day of June 2007

O R D E R

The petitioner faces indictment in a prosecution under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act. According to the petitioner, he is innocent. No summons or notice was received from the court. He was not aware of the pendency of the case at all. He now finds himself in the unenviable predicament of a warrant of arrest issued by the learned Magistrate chasing him. The petitioner is willing to surrender before the learned Magistrate but he apprehends that his application for bail may not be considered by the learned Magistrate on merits, in accordance with law and expeditiously. He, therefore, prays that directions under Section 482 Cr.P.C. may be issued to the learned Magistrate to release the petitioner on bail when he appears and applies for bail.

2. It is for the petitioner to appear before the learned Magistrate and explain to the learned Magistrate, the circumstances under which he could not earlier appear before the learned Magistrate.

3. I find absolutely no reason to assume that the learned Magistrate would not consider the application for bail to be filed by the petitioner on merits, in accordance with law and expeditiously. Every court must do the same. No special or specific directions appear to be necessary. Sufficient general directions have been issued in Alice George vs. Deputy Superintendent of Police [2003(1)KLT 339].

4. In the result, this Crl.M.C is dismissed but with the specific observation that if the petitioner surrenders before the learned Magistrate and applies for bail, after giving sufficient prior notice to the Prosecutor in charge of the case, the learned Magistrate must proceed to pass appropriate orders on merits, in accordance with law and expeditiously - on the date of surrender itself unless there are compelling reasons.

Hand over copy of this order to the learned counsel for the petitioner.

(R.BASANT, JUDGE)

jsr

// True Copy// PA to Judge

R.BASANT, J.

CRL.M.CNo.

ORDER

21ST DAY OF MAY2007